

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit 1775

Examiner:

PATENT

Applicants: Richard P. Welty et al

Serial No.

Filed:

Title COATED ARTICLE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination please amend the above identified application as follows:

Insert the following after the title:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/365,130 filed July 30, 1999.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-21.

Please amend the following claims:

22.[amended] An article having on at least a portion of its surface a coating [comprised] consisting essentially of, in order:

strike layer [comprised] consisting essentially of zirconium, titanium or zirconium-titanium alloy on said surface; and

layer [comprised] consisting essentially of zirconium compound, titanium compound or zirconium-titanium alloy compound on said strike layer.

24.[amended] The article of claim 23 wherein said layer [comprised] consisting essentially of zirconium compound, titanium compound or zirconium-titanium alloy compound [is comprised] consists essentially of zirconium compound or zirconium-titanium alloy compound.

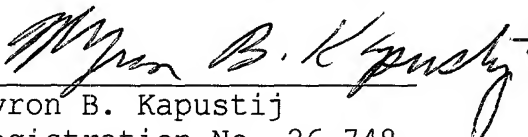
26.[amended] The article of claim 24 wherein said layer [comprised] consisting essentially of zirconium, titanium or zirconium-titanium alloy [is comprised] consists essentially of zirconium or zirconium-titanium alloy.

27.[amended] The article of claim 25 wherein said layer [comprised] consisting essentially of zirconium, titanium or zirconium-titanium alloy [is comprised] consists essentially of zirconium or zirconium-titanium alloy.

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 have been canceled. Claims 22, 24, 26 and 27 have been amended.

Respectfully submitted,


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